



REMARKS

In the Office Action of December 22, 2004, claims 7, 8 and 12-15 were allowed.

Claims 1-4 and 18-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Huang, et al. (USP 5,991,289); claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as anticipated by Smart, et al. (USP 6,735,255); claims 9-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Smart in view of Kadous (US Patent Application Publication 2001/0036234). Claims 16 and 17 were subject to a restriction requirement.

In response to this Office Action, claims 1-6 and 16-21 have been cancelled without prejudice to filing one or more of these claims in another patent application. Claims 7 and 8 have been rewritten in independent form.

It is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 9-14 appears to be in error because these claims are directly or indirectly dependent on claim 8 which was indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request the Examiner to pass the subject application to issue. If for any reason the Examiner believes any of the claims are not in condition for allowance, he is encouraged to phone the undersigned at (212) 309-6632 so that any remaining issues may be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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